

2013 City of Austin Google Fiber Community Connections Program Application and Instructions

Google has announced plans to bring Google Fiber to Austin residents. The plan calls for building an ultra, high speed broadband network with Internet speeds of one gigabit per second, up to 100 times faster than normal to Austin's homes.

Google has agreed to provide up to 100 sites with broadband Internet services through its fiber network free of charge until April 8, 2023 in addition to City Hall and the new Central Library. These Community Connections will be to public or non-profit sites in the City of Austin that provide access and services directly to Austinites through what is being called the Community Connections program. Under the agreement with Google Fiber, the City of Austin will create the proposed list of sites for the program.

It is the City Council's goal to ensure an application and selection process that is transparent, available to all, and utilizes a clear set of [selection criteria](#) adopted by the City Council. Community Connections aims to provide fiber speed internet access directly to the public and will serve for innovation and digital inclusion, resulting in advancements unique to Austin's spirit.

Attached is the Community Connections Site Application, which is due by September 30, 2013.

Please direct questions to the City's Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs Office at digital.inclusion@austintexas.gov or 512-974-2999.

For more information and application: austintexas.gov/digitalinclusion

Thank you for your consideration.



Community Connections Site Selection Application Form

The City of Austin will propose **100** public or non-profit organizations to receive Google Fiber connections at their locations.

Application Packet

In order to be considered for selection, please submit the following items:

- **General Application Form.** Complete this form (ensuring that it is signed and dated).
- **Criteria Form. Complete this form as fully as possible.** If the organization offers services at more than one location, the applicant should complete the Criteria Form for each location and prioritize the single location that will benefit the most from having a gigabit of service.

Application Submission

All applications are due in the Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs (TARA) before **4:45 p.m. on Monday, September 30, 2013**. Late applications will not be considered.

Submissions may be submitted by email or snail mail to:

Email: digital.inclusion@austintexas.gov

Address: City of Austin - Municipal Building -124 W. 8th Street, Suite 210, Austin, Texas 78701

Phone: 512.974.2999

Application Review Process

Community Applications

- August 26, 2013 - Community Site Applications Available
- September 30, 2013 - Deadline for Site Applications for Community Connections
- October 1-31, 2013 - Staff Review & Assessment

Site List Adoption

- November 6, 2013 – Community Tech & Telecommunications Commission - Discussion & Input
- November 13, 2013 – Emerging Technology & Telecommunications Council Committee - Discussion & Recommendation to Council
- November 21, 2013 - Council Discussion & Adoption of Community Connection Site List
- End of 2013 - Google Fiber requested deadline for Community Connection Site List from City

Privacy Statement

This information is being collected and will be used to assist in determining your organization's eligibility and qualification for receiving a community connection on the City's proposed site list. This information provided may be published by the City. Any information collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a governmental body is subject to the Public Information Act.

Community Connections General Application Form

(Please complete this portion of application only once per organization if submitting for multiple sites)

General Application Form

Applicant Organization Name: Boys & Girls Clubs of the Austin Area

Alias/DBA:

Program Name for Google Fiber Connection:

Boys & Girls Clubs of Austin

Organization Mission and Purpose: To enable all youth, especially those who need us most, to become caring, productive and responsible citizens.

Organization Website:

www.bgcaustin.org

Contact Name: Kelly St. Julien

City: Austin

State: TX

Zip: 78723

Phone:
5124447199

Email: kelly.stjulien@bgcaustin.org

Location(s) applying for site selection (including physical address of location) and how long your organization plans on being at each location:

Administrative Office: 5407 N IH-35 Austin, TX 78723

South Club: 303 W Johanna St. Austin, TX 78704

East Club: 901 Thompson St. Austin, TX 78702

Type of Organization: ☒ Non-Profit ☐ Public Entity

Number of years in operation:
46 years

Number of employees at location:
50

Community Connections Criteria Form

(Please complete this portion of application once for organization in an electronic document and please explain each response, 1000 words maximum per response, please)

Criteria Form

Organization

1. What is your agency's vision? *(response required for all agencies)*
Our vision is to become the most effective, recognized and vital your organization in Central Texas
2. What is your agency's mission and purpose? *(response required for all agencies)*
The BGCAA, founded in 1967, is dedicated to its mission to inspire all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. The foremost desired outcome of our work with the economically disadvantaged and high risk youth of Austin is to see all of our Club members graduate high school, prepared to either enter college or begin a skilled career that allows the youth to become a self-sufficient adult. In pursuit of our mission, we have established a strong presence in Austin's most distressed neighborhoods: East and South Austin, as well as pockets that represent other high need areas throughout Travis County.
3. Please list your organization's affiliations, community partnerships, certifications, and/or accreditations. *(response required for all agencies)* We are a charter organization of Boys & Girls Clubs of America and maintain multiple local partnerships including AISD, The City of Austin, Dell Inc., AMD, Google, National Instruments, The Texas Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs, CTAN and many others.
4. What is the total number of unduplicated clients served by your organization at this location last fiscal year? *(response required for non-profit agencies only)* . We serve over 12,000 kids each year and over 1,700 every day.
5. Briefly provide an overview of your organization and the services it offers. *(response required for all agencies)*
BGCAA provides economically-disadvantaged youth with proven-successful program models during out of school time (after school, school vacations and summertime) in order that children and youth may improve their educational and social skills, physical health and fitness, and emotional well-being. Boys & Girls Clubs are open when school is out, offering a fun and productive environment to be in every day after school and all day during school holidays. We ensure that our programs are accessible by making them free or very low-cost, and by providing them not only afterschool each day but also all day during summertime, when many families are without the means to send their kids to camp or hire a sitter. We strive to create a foundation for a positive peer culture that values learning skills and contributing to society. BGCAA utilizes a well-defined and proven strategy for accomplishing our goals, known as our Formula for Impact. This Formula states that taking the youth who need us the most and giving them an outcome-driven Club experience that relies on our five key elements for positive youth development (described below), targeted programming, and high yield activities, will enable us to reach our priority outcomes: mainly, that youth graduate from high school prepared for the next stage in their personal journey to success.
6. Describe the community issues your organization is attempting to address. Include a description of the population most at risk of experiencing the issues described. *(response required for non-profit agencies only)*
We serve over 12,000 kids each year and over 1,700 every day. We reach a diverse group of kids and teens: Hispanics represent 57% of our membership; African Americans, 32%; Caucasian, 5%; and Multi-racial or other, 6%. Other member demographics make clear the need for our programs: members with families below poverty level, 85%; youth living in public housing, 23%; and youth from single guardian homes, 56%. Clubs are open 245 days a year, with more than 1,600 total hours of programming.

Through providing targeted academic outreach, mentoring youth on good character and citizenship, and promoting healthy

lifestyles, we aim to empower all our youth to break the cycle of poverty by becoming successful, healthy, and compassionate adults. Through our diverse programs and opportunities provided during out-of-school-time, BGCAA strives to promote and sustain self-sufficiency for children and youth aged 6 to 18, and aims to provide a safe place for young people to enjoy positive ongoing relationships and life-enhancing activities that offer character and intellectual development, hope and opportunity. We provide comprehensive youth development which incorporates multiple evidence-based programming and interventions that target educational competencies, positive self-identity, technological competencies, social competencies, emotional competencies, cultural competencies, community and civic involvement, healthy lifestyle, and a moral compass. Our programs are designed to give young people the sense that they can do something well, are competent and have individual worth.

7. Describe the demographics (e.g. ethnicity, gender, age, and income levels) and geographic characteristics of the community members your organization serves. *(response required for non-profit agencies only)*
Our client demographics consist as follows: 57% Hispanic, 32% African American, 6% Multi-Racial and 5% Caucasian. . 85% of our members live in households below the poverty level, 23% live in public housing and 56% our members live in single parent environments. Our members live primarily in East and North Austin.
8. Describe your organization's accessibility (e.g. accessible main entrance, within blocks of a public bus stop, etc.). *(response required for non-profit agencies only)* All of the proposed locations are within two blocks of public transit and have approved, accessible entrances designed for public use.
9. If selected, how will your organization incorporate Google Fiber into the services it offers? *(response required for all agencies)* We would utilize the service at our administration offices in support of our data server. We would also like to use the service at our two larger Austin locations to support tech programming we offer to youth and families.
10. The City of Austin requires an annual report explaining how selected organizations and the community they serve benefit from Google Fiber. If selected, how will your organization measure the impact Google Fiber has on those served by your organization? Describe evaluation methods, goals, and objectives. *(response required for all agencies)*

We incorporate program evaluation into the design of each of our activities. We are able to assess our progress towards positive youth development in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to: our bi-yearly youth surveys; graduation rates; and the grade progress, test scores, attendance and behavioral reports we are able to monitor through our partnership with the Austin Independent School District. Our youth surveys are a qualitative survey of the lives and decisions of our Club members to gauge what they are experiencing both in and outside of the Club and how the Club helps them cope with the difficulties they face daily. Club Directors track data through youth participation forms which are completed by the youths' parent(s) or guardian. The form includes demographic information, income level, youth's eligibility for free or reduced lunch, and more. Club Directors also track youth participation in specific programs, the number of youth referred by the Austin Independent School District (AISD) and the Del Valle Independent School District (DVISD) for tutoring, and attendance throughout the month. These surveys and school metrics reports are reviewed by program and Club staff to see where Club programming and support needs to improve. Club activities are modified based on their findings. For this effort we would track overall participation and program results including any and all demographic data required.

Please include location if applying for more than one location (include priority rank if submitting for more than one location:

1. Administrative Office: 5407 N IH-35 Austin, TX 78723
2. South Club: 303 W Johanna St. Austin, TX 78704
3. East Club: 901 Thompson St. Austin, TX 78702

Community

(responses required for all agencies)

1. Briefly describe how Google Fiber will enhance public participation in your organization's service.
It will allow our nearly 2200 daily members and their families greater access to advanced technology and the ability and exposure to create substantive content in a safe environment.
2. Briefly describe how your organization promotes digital inclusion.
We focus on technology education and exposure in 22 sites in the Austin area
3. Will bringing Google Fiber to your organization help the underserved? Please explain.
We provide equipment and education free for our members and their families including curriculum that promotes a 21st century skill set and digital ethics. 85% of our members 23% public housing 56%single parent environments
4. How much of your community will benefit from the Google Fiber connection? This service will affect all of our 150 plus staff and 1700 members per day and 12,000 that we interact with due to the increased effectiveness of our infrastructure.
5. Briefly describe how your organization will offer a new community service as a result of the Google Fiber connection.
We will offer new programming at our East and South Clubs in our HOT Spot labs for members that include digital content creation and hosting online. This may include streaming and live content as well as original video, audio and web based projects.

Innovation

(responses required for all agencies)

1. Please describe the potential innovative applications that could be developed with a gigabit connection.
Hosting of our website, expansion of our program offering to our youth in the form of digital content hosting, interclub communication and expansion of our server environment.
2. Does your organization have or foresee high bandwidth applications?
We currently host our own data and allow remote access to our sites. We would use this connection to achieve greater reliability and speed of connection from 22 area clubs to our administration offices.
3. Briefly describe how your organization is interested in advancing your technology.
We would like to expand our ability to connect to sites and share data remotely. At the club level, we would like our members to be able to create and host original content online.
4. Does your organization have the capacity and resources to advance your technologies? Please explain.
We have strived to increase our technological capacity and have made some strides. However, logistical and financial barriers have impeded our progress in achieving the interconnectivity and content goals we aim for.

Practical Pragmatic

(responses required for all agencies)

1. Will the connection help your organization financially? How? It will allow us to expand our infrastructure to serve our 22 individual sites more effectively. This Broadband connection will give us the capacity for remote networking, online program facilitation and implementation, web hosting of active content and reliability for all online reporting and accounting for all 22 Austin area sites.
2. Will this be the organization's primary or secondary connection? primary
3. Does your organization have (or will it have) equipment necessary to connect? yes
4. Does your organization currently have access to a high bandwidth connection? yes

Applicant's Statement

I certify that answers given herein are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that false or misleading information given in my application will result in disqualification. I understand and agree that I am required to abide by City of Austin ordinances, policies and rules.

I understand if selected to receive a Google Fiber connection that the organization I represent may be required to:

X submit an annual report to the TARA Office explaining how the organization has benefited from the free service.

Kelly St. Julien

Signature

9/30/2013

Date

Director of Technology

Title

Please submit this form to TARA by 4:45 p.m. on Monday, September 30, 2013.

Email: digital.inclusion@austintexas.gov

Address: City of Austin – TARA - Municipal Building
124 W. 8th Street, Suite 210
Austin, Texas 78701